



May 2022 Bulletin

Please Pass Me Along to Other Stations to Share!

ASSOCIATION CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE APRIL 2022 CONTEST WINNER CENTRAL HEIGHTS, YONKERS NY. Please read through this bulletin for your chance to win!!! Call the office with the correct answer to the trivia question and you will be entered in the monthly drawing for a chance to receive a free month's dues; a value of \$45.00.

ATTORNEY'S CORNER

LET'S TALK TECHNOLOGY IN A SERVICE STATION

Apology offered in advance if this column seems a little "Geeky". Early on in my legal career, I was on the Board of a rather successful startup in the DOS era [this was just when the dinosaurs were dying! [Attorney Joke] and I was on the Windows Team conversion for this company and was involved in the designing the Alpha version for our platform and later was a Beta tester. Enough about past history - the dinosaurs really are dead. If you feel that you are too old to "upgrade" your technology, you are not. Upgrade or join the dinosaurs!

Question:

Is technology serving your station, or are you a servant to technology?

Excuse:

I "don't do email". I hear this day in and day out along with I "don't have a Smart phone", or I need to rely upon my son or daughter to do it for me when they get home from school. [If you have a 12-year-old - that's the go to person].

Discussion:

Today, we are constantly distracted by technology, connectivity, electronic information and information overload ... email, instant messaging, social media, phone calls. You may switch tasks on the computer perhaps 50 to 100 times a day. We are drowning in technology-attached interruptions. I receive the 100 emails each day which must be reviewed and responded to and more importantly archived. As an attorney I must. Similarly, perhaps 25 texts and 15 voice messages. I provide a voice-message only telephone number.

These methods of communication are essential and, in fact, are required in our business, [think estimates, invoices - you want to get paid, yes? Parts ordering.] But these items are also killing us if we don't have the process and technology in place to deal with them!

The vital interruptions & technology distractions cause very smart people to underperform.

The Future

In this environment, adoption of Evs [The Post Office is committed to ordering EV's for its delivery vehicles] is becoming widespread despite the price. As more people are interested, smaller EV's will come online with prices comparable to today's mid-size vehicle. You are going to need a least one or two "fast charge" stations. Expensive but government subsidies should be available. If you are a Branded gasoline retailer the Brand will work on installing as they do with the image upgrades. If you are Un-branded or a Repair Shop only, you need to look for the government subsidy.

Fuels such as LPG and CNG will replace some of the lost volume of gasoline, they won't completely offset the effect of rising EV use. Hydrogen filling stations (including a compressed gas store) for buses, passenger cars, and special vehicles currently exist worldwide.

It is important to recognize that these market environments do not represent the full range of possibilities over the next few years.

They may reflect market archetypes that may exist before or during 2035. The degree of financial impact of each of these scenarios varies by market environment, the profitability of the fuel retailer network takes a sizable hit in every case. If you innovate and keep up to date, you will be the Apex survivor, if not, you will most assuredly join the dinosaurs.

Learn how to take back control of your business, do a task list, ... and your day, week & month with practical methodologies that allow you to regain control of your day. [And your life!] Humm - maybe that 12-year-old should be contacted! Just kidding - any problems call the Association.

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CONSUMER REPORTS: MOST AMERICANS FAVOR R2R POLICIES

WASHINGTON D.C. — A "strong" majority of U.S. adults support policies that align with the Right to Repair (R2R) movement for vehicle repair, according to the results of a recent Consumer Reports survey. More than eight out of ten of U.S. adults surveyed in late 2021 by Consumer Reports said they agree with a policy that would require manufacturers to make repair information and parts available either to independent repair professionals or to product owners. Consumer Reports (CR), based in Yonkers, an independent, subscriber-funded magazine and product evaluation entity — surveyed 2,075 U.S. adults in November and December to ascertain consumer attitudes toward repairing and replacing broken products and the choices available to them.

CR said it is a longtime champion of the "right to repair," which guarantees that consumers and independent repairers have the same access as a manufacturer's authorized repair technicians to the information, parts and tools needed for repairs. For those planning to buy a vehicle, 83% said reparability is very important.

When asked if they believe consumers have enough choices when it comes to picking where they will get something repaired, more than half (57%) of those surveyed said "No," there are not enough choices for at least one of the product types CR asked about.

Other highlights from the survey include:

- Eight out of 10 (81%) said they have, in the past five years, replaced at least one of the types of items asked about (smartphones, small and large home appliances, and vehicles) due to breakage.
- More than half of those surveyed (53%) said they have replaced a broken product, in at least one of the categories CR asked about, sooner than they wanted to because they couldn't find a repair professional, they were happy with to fix it.
- Eighty-four percent of those surveyed said they agree with a policy that would require manufacturers to make repair information and parts available either to independent repair professionals or to product owners.

Legislation to guarantee consumers the right to repair has been gaining support at the state and national level as manufacturers have made it more difficult to make what should be simple repairs on electronics-enabled products, CR said.

Restricting access to basic diagnostic information, tools, and replacement parts needed to make those repairs forces consumers to rely on the manufacturer or its hand-picked servicers. Without competition and choice, repair costs get inflated, CR said, and getting repairs done can be far less convenient. Sometimes the manufacturer even refuses to repair the product at all, forcing the consumer to throw it away and buy a new one.

This bill would guarantee consumers the right to have their electronic devices fixed by a repair servicer of their choosing — or to make their own repairs, if they can, CR said. The Fair Repair Act is based on model legislation developed by Consumer Reports and other allies in the right-to-repair effort.

President Biden signed an executive order last July that would advance the right to repair for consumers by encouraging the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to issue rules to protect repair rights.

In addition, the FTC released a landmark report, Nixing the Fix, which explores how repair restrictions hurt consumers, particularly low-income consumers and communities of color.

RIGHT TO REPAIR LAWSUIT DECISION DELAYED SECOND TIME

BOSTON — A federal judge on April 15 once again postponed a decision on a lawsuit filed by auto makers represented by the Alliance for Automotive Innovation over updates to Massachusetts' right-to-repair law.

In a court filing, U.S. District Judge Douglas Woodlock cited "the resurgence of a demanding criminal trial schedule," the resumption of in-court, non-trial proceedings and writing responsibilities in other matters as reasons for the delay.

Woodlock said he expected to issue a ruling no later than July 1.

In March, Woodlock postponed the decision because of "unforeseen and unforeseeable circumstances" and other competing demands. At that time, he said he expected to issue a ruling April 15.

The alliance filed the lawsuit against Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey in November 2020 after voters overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure that revised and expanded the state's existing law.

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The revised law — referred to as the "Data Access Law" in the lawsuit — requires makers of vehicles sold in the state to equip vehicles that use telematics systems with a standardized, open-access data platform beginning with the 2022 model year. It also gives vehicle owners and independent repair shops access to real-time information from the telematics, such as crash notifications, remote diagnostics and navigation.

The alliance has argued the state's amended law conflicts with several federal laws, poses cybersecurity and vehicle safety risks and sets an impossible timeline for compliance.



CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

Currently, it is unlawful for any person to install, sell, offer for sale, or advertise any new aftermarket catalytic converter intended for use on a gasoline powered passenger car, light-duty truck, or medium-duty vehicle originally certified with a catalytic converter in New York State unless it has been exempted pursuant to the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 13, section 2222 (see Table 1, section 200.9 of this Title).

As of January 1, 2023 all replacement catalytic converters sold, offered for sale, or installed in New York State shall be either a CARB certified new aftermarket catalytic converter, or an original equipment manufacturer replacement catalytic converter.

After January 1, 2023 it is unlawful to offer for sale, sell or install any Federal certified aftermarket catalytic converter in New York State unless the vehicle owner has obtained a waiver from the department. Federal certified aftermarket catalytic converters may be shipped to distribution centers, warehoused, and shipped through New York State without penalty. Federal certified aftermarket catalytic converters may be sold out of state without penalty.



Beginning May 7, 2022, employers with a place of business in New York that monitor or intercept employee phone calls, email, or internet use must provide advance, written notice about it when the employee is hired. In addition to being in writing, the monitoring notice must be in electronic form and acknowledged by the employee in writing or electronically.

The notice must inform the employee that any phone calls, emails, or internet use by them via electronic device or system, including but not limited to the use of a computer, telephone, wire, radio or electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or photo-optical systems may be subject to monitoring at any and all times and by any lawful means.

Employers must also conspicuously post the notice of electronic monitoring in a place where employees who are subject to electronic monitoring can see it. However, the notice requirements don't apply to processes used to manage the type or volume of incoming or outgoing emails, voicemails, or internet use if they aren't targeting the use of a particular individual and are solely for computer system maintenance or protection.

REFERRALS

If you know of a station that needs our services and is interested in becoming a member, refer them to us and upon signing you will receive a \$50.00 Amazon gift card. If you know of someone interested, please contact our Sales Representative Bill Griese at 914-227-0144.

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NEW AETNA INSURANCE PLANS

We are pleased to offer two new insurance plans through Aetna-Meritain Health. On the next page please find the UBF/AETNA-MERITAIN Medical election form that outlines the plan details. Enrollment is for June 1, 2022. If you are interested in enrolling in either of these plans, please call the office and we will send you the enrollment form. The enrollment form must be completed and returned to us by May 20, 2022 to ensure June 1, 2022 coverage. **Please make sure to read the plan details in full as these plans are basic copay plans up to a specific claim amount.**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Baroni Scrap Metal
Poughkeepsie, NY

Baroni Recycling North Inc.
Pleasant Valley, NY

Knucklebusters
Highland, NY

Superior Transmissions & Auto
Newburgh, NY

The Car Place Lot, Inc.
Brewster, NY

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: West. Cty NYS Insp. Mach. & Lic. including window tint meter. asking \$20,000 obo. Auto repair shop of over 30 years closing. All equipment & tools for sale call Ed at 914-659-0453.

For Sale: Powersports Dealership for sale, Motorcycles, ATVS, UTVS, Snowmobiles, Generators/power washers. Parts / Service dept. 8500 sq. ft. building on 8 acres. Rent or buy. Kawasaki and Arctic Cat, Kymco, Generac generators. We are located on the Newburgh/Marlboro NY, RT 9w. High traffic road. Check our website bigboyztoysny.com Call Tony 845-781-3082 cell.

For Sale: Various ½ " & ¾" Drive Socket Sets, extensions, 1 Lincoln Grease Gun Cartridge (**BATTERY POWER**), Miscellaneous Shop Tools and Supplies, 1 Ammco Combo Brake Lathe, Rotors and Drum and all adaptors, 1 Ammco Little Giant Brake Drum Lathe, 1 MGO Pump for Drum, 1 Elect Parts Washer, Portable Engine Crane, Engine Stand, 1 Hoppy Laser Headlight Aimer, Various Jack Stands Different Tonnage, 4 Floor Jacks Various Tonnage, 1 Snap-On EVAP Smoke Machine (**BRAND NEW**), 2012 Honda Rancher ES ATV with plow & Craftsman Ride On Lawn Mower. **Contact: Tony Zeppieri at 914-494-8338 for pricing.**

For Sale: Three bay auto repair shop with parking lot and state inspection license. Located at 467 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. Please call 914-375-6150 and ask for Siaka.

For Sale: You can be your own boss! Est. shop that specializes in trailer repair, snowplow and salter sales, parts and repair. We also offer vehicle up-fitting. We sell and install numerous truck bodies. The shop is geared towards landscapers and contractor's needs. Service center has an excellent reputation that repairs all makes and models of box trucks, utility trailers landscape and boat trailers. Welding and fabricating repairs/parts as needed. We have the ability to make hydraulic hoses that we make on site. The showroom that is fully stocked with inventory. The shop can fit 4 vehicles inside. Shop equip. includes: 2 post lifts, torches, welder, tire changer, balancer, band saw, drill press, work benches & more. There is also a private office. We are an authorized BOSS snowplow, Ramp Rack, Buyers and Woolwax dealer. Motivated to sell IMMEDIATELY due to relocating out of the area. Great opportunity to get in now during the snow season. Please call 845-590-5800 for more information.

TRIVIA QUESTION

When does the new law go into effect for Catalytic Converters? Call the office with an answer for a chance to win a free month's dues.

I hope you enjoyed reading this month's bulletin. If you have any questions, feel free to call the association. We are here to help you and your industry.

Regards,
Carla Obalde
Operations Manager